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DEBATES

by Roy Abrams

During the past two weeks a debating team was chosen to represent the Altona Collegiate in the annual Festival of Speech Arts. The top four debators were selected through a series of eliminations. The topic under discussion was "Be it resolved that the Canadian Senate be retained." Out of the sixteen entrants, the eight who managed to talk their way to the finals, were scheduled to fight their respective verbal battles on Thursday morning, February 4.

In the first such battle, the team of Betty Kehler and Margaret Loewen (AFF.) was pitted against that of Vic Friesen and John Zacharias (NEG.). The second match found Wendy Lang and Marlene Sawatsky (AFF.) dueling with Donald Martel and Robert Buhr (NEG.). The winning teams, however, were not necessarily the ones chosen for the festival. It was thus that the chosen (See page 4)

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by Grant Thiessen

PRACTICAL? JOKES: It comes to my attention that some students feel that school is an opportunity to play practical jokes on teachers, or a place to vent their disapproval of authority. Incidents like the thrown applecore in the auditorium, or the chalk erasers rigged up over a door to fall down on an unsuspecting teacher, are bad enough. What makes them still worse, however, is the fact that the guilty parties are not prone to confessing. I personally like practical jokes; but not ones in which someone is hurt, or ones which cause needless pain or trouble to others. Both the above incidents caused or are causing trouble for innocent people. No one should even attempt a practical joke if he is not big enough (character-wise) to take the consequences.

VOTING: Another incident which I strongly object to occurred during the plebescite on the constitution issue. Apparently some students voted up to seven times in the plebescite. This is about as childish and immature as one can get. Some people expect to have a constitution that appeals to their every whim, but they can't vote honestly either for or against it. How low can you stoop?

CONSTITUTION AGAIN: The Constitution Committee is again at work on the constitution. They request that, if you are in disagreement with any section of the constitution, you list your grievances on the form on page 3, and deposit it in the box provided for these grievances attached to the main bulletin board. Let's help the constitution committee by telling them our grievances (if any). They need this information.

Editorial cont. NEW COURSES: We are now at the halfway point in the year, and it seems that a number of new courses need

to be instituted. The first of these is FLUNKING OUT 120. This is a very popular course, because you fail only if you have more than 50%. DROPPING A SUBJECT 121. This course is fairly populular among those that have plenty of time to go through school. ELEMENTARY CRIB-BING ON EXAMS 220, and ADVANCED CRIBBING ON EXAMS 320. The elementary course includes writing notes in invisible ink on one's cuffs, and lessons on how to build a periscope to see what your neighbour is writing; the advanced course includes lessons in Morse Code, to tap out questions or answers to a friend, and the techniques involved in smuggling in a walkie-talkie unit. By the way, these courses are not being offered by the school. If you wish to take one of these courses, send a stamped-self-addressed envelope to me for your free information on these courses, including \$10.00 (no cheques please) for postage and handling.

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DEBATES cont.

representatives were Margaret Loewen and Vic Friesen for the affirmative, with the negative viewpoint supplied by Donald Martel and John Zacharias.

This system of eliminations provides the eventual winners with a wealth of information since all the teams have the same topic. This reserve of information can be tapped at will by the finalists in their preparation for the inter-collegiate debates.

The debates were well-prepared and presented in a manner showing that, as one noted official put it, "debating can be fun."

UNIVERSITY ORIENTATION CLASSES

by Steve Klassen and Luther Pokrant

During the past few weeks, the Grade XII students attended University Orientation Courses at the University of Manitoba. Approximately 1400 students from all over Manitoba were present, including roughly twenty-five from our school. They attended sample lectures and toured various laboratories and museums. The courses were varied, ranging from physics to psychology, from architecture to nursing. In our estimation, the courses were very helpful in familiarizing the students with the university atmosphere, and in helping them to make decisions about their future education.

The only thing objectionable about it was the early departure of the bus and the bone-jolting ride. (The Rhineland School Division buses supplied the transportation.) In general the orientation courses were extremely enjoyable and seemed to appeal to everyone. All will agree that they were worthwhile and that they should definitely be continued in the future.